(b) if so, the number of such camps being organized country-wise;

(c) the average trainees being trained in each camp; and

(d) the measures being taken by Government to close such camps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) Pakistan and PoK: A number of terrorist camps exist in Pakistan and PoK. The Government has, in its interaction with Pakistan at all levels, continuously stressed the fact that Pakistan has so far not taken any significant action to dismantle the infrastructure of support to terrorism, such as launching pads, training camps, communications, funding, etc. The Government have always made it clear that the India - Pakistan dialogue process can be sustained only in an atmosphere free from terrorism and violence and is critically dependent on the fulfilment of January 6,2004 commitment of President Musharraf not to permit any territory under Pakistan's control to be used to support terrorism in any manner.

Bangladesh: Bangladesh is known to have Indian insurgent groups' (HGs) camps on its soil. A list of 172 camps of IIGs was handed over by Director General, BSF to DG Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) during their meeting in September/October 2005. The issue has been frequently taken up with the Government of Bangladesh at all levels, including the highest political level. We have been assured by the Government of Bangladesh that they would not allow their territory to be used for activities inimical to India.

Nepal: As far as Nepal is concerned, there is no information regarding the existence of any training camps organized by terrorists on the Nepalese territory.

Instructions to officials not to travel to or through France

950. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had withdrawn the advice to officials not to travel to or through France;

(b) if so, whether Government are satisfied with the arrangements made in France; and

(c) if so, the steps initiated by France in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) Yes, Madam. The Government of India is satisfied with the assurance by the French Government that visas will henceforth be issued expeditiously to holders of diplomatic and official passports.

Indian threat to pull out from US peacekeeping operations

951. SHRI VIJAYJ. DARDA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that India's delegate at the 60th Session of the UN General Assembly in New York has said that 'India might pull out of UN peacekeeping operations in future if the country continued to be kept out of the decision-making process; and

(b) if so, whether it is in accordance with our established foreign policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. India's delegate at the 60th Session of the UN General Assembly in New York has not made such a statement.

(b) Does not arise.

Construction of Buddha statue by Bhutan

952. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhutan proposes to build the world's largest Buddha statue;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the time-frame within which it would be started and completed;

(c) what is the status of such rock Buddha statue which was destroyed by the vandalism of Talibans at Bamyan in Afghanistan and whether Afghanistan Government proposes to re-construct this statue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?